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PAGE REPLACEMENT WITH A RE-REFERENCE INDICATOR ABSTRACT

A method, apparatus, processor, system, and signal-bearing medium that in an embodiment determine which page to replace in memory when the memory is full based on reference and re-reference indicators in page table entries. In an embodiment, a reference indicator in an entry is set when its associated page is accessed in memory and the reference indicator was previously clear. The re-reference indicator in an entry is set when its associated page is accessed and the reference indicator was previously set. Both the reference and re-reference indicators are cleared if their associated page is accessed and both were previously set. When a new page is accessed and the memory is full, a page in the memory is not available for replacement if both its reference and its re-reference indicators are set. Otherwise, the page is available for replacement.